

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt:
This month shall mark for you the beginning of months;
it shall be the first month of the year for you.

Tell the whole congregation of Israel
that on the tenth of this month
they are to take a lamb for each family,
a lamb for each household.

If a household is too small for a whole lamb,
it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one;
the lamb shall be divided
in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male;
you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.

You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month;
then the whole assembled congregation of Israel
shall slaughter it at twilight.

They shall take some of the blood
and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel
of the houses in which they eat it.

They shall eat the lamb that same night;
they shall eat it roasted over the fire
with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

This is how you shall eat it:
your loins girded, your sandals on your feet,

and your staff in your hand;
and you shall eat it hurriedly.

It is the Passover of the Lord.

For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night,
and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt,
both human beings and animals;

on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments:

I am the Lord.

The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live:
when I see the blood, I will pass over you,
and no plague shall destroy you
when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you.

You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord;
throughout your generations
you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord!

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters:

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,
that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed
took a loaf of bread,

and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and said,

“This is my Body that is for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying,

“This cup is the new covenant in my Blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

The Word of the Lord!

Gospel

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father.

He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.

The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over.

So, during supper,

fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God, he rose from supper and took off his outer garments.

He took a towel and tied it around his waist.

Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Master, are you going to wash my feet?"

Jesus answered and said to him,

"What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later."

Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet."

Jesus answered him,

"Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."

Simon Peter said to him,

"Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."

Jesus said to him,

"Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over;

so you are clean, but not all."

For he knew who would betray him;

for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."

So when he had washed their feet
and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,
he said to them, “Do you realize what I have done for you?
You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘master,’ and rightly so, for indeed I
am.

If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet,
you ought to wash one another’s feet.
I have given you a model to follow,
so that as I have done for you, you should also do.”